



Wyoming Department of Education

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MEMORANDUM NO. 2012 – 125

TO: School District Superintendents
Curriculum Directors
K-12 School Principals

FROM: Julie Magee, Director
Standards, Learning & Accountability

DATE: September 4, 2012

SUBJECT: District Assessment Systems

Important Information

The State Board of Education recently revised Chapter 31 of the Education Rules. As part of that process, the Governor line-item vetoed the phrase “body of evidence.” This has raised questions among districts regarding their assessment systems. This memo is intended to clarify the effect of this line-item veto.

The requirements and process for the district assessment systems are outlined in section 10 of the Chapter 31 Education Rules. The removal of the phrase “body of evidence” simply means that districts are no longer required to use the “body of evidence” assessment system. Rather, districts may choose any form of a district assessment system—including the system already in place—so long as it complies with the requirements of section 10(a). These requirements are summarized here:

- alignment with the content and performance standards
- consistency in determining whether students meet graduation requirements, avoiding bias against any groups of students
- research-based methodology for establishing cut scores between performance levels
- comparable across schools and classrooms both within the district and across years

Districts have the latitude to develop an assessment system according to their individual needs as long as these requirements are met.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please Julie Magee at 307.777.8740 or julie.magee@wyo.gov.

JM:dr